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- Dr W.P.H. Duffus, Veterinary Research Laboratory, P.O. Kabete,
and Dr A.E. Butterworth, Box 43640, Nairobi.

Received 23 February 1977.

AFRICAN HARRIER-HAWK *POLYBOROIDES TYPUS* FEEDING ON CARRION

A.D. Forbes-Watson

On 23 December 1976 at Samburu Lodge, northern Kenya, the fresh hindquarters of a goat were hung by the feet in a tree to attract leopard to feed within sight. Soon after dawn next day, I was attracted by a commotion at this bait, and saw that an immature African Harrier-Hawk *Polyboroides typus* was hanging by its feet from the lower part of the bait. It was beating its wings in the characteristic fashion of the species when searching crannies etc., and was seen to be tearing at the meat between its feet. After a few minutes the wing action changed to a frantic beating, but the bird was evidently caught by its claws in the meat and could not free itself. It was at least five minutes before the bird fell on its back to the ground below; then it righted itself and stayed spread-eagled for a few minutes until flying away.

Brown & Amadon (1968) do not mention carrion in the diet of this species, but Rand (1936) records 'carrion' in the stomach of the Madagascar Harrier-Hawk *P. radiatus*; this was a part of the hedgehog-like insectivore *Tenrec ecaudatus* (Tenrecidae); but as the adults are c.25 cm in length they could reasonably be expected to be taken and killed by a Harrier-Hawk, and carrion-feeding in this species remains to be proved.

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Received 15 February 1977.

WATTLED PLOVERS *VANELLUS SENEGALLUS* IN TANZANIA

J.F. Reynolds

Mann (1976), stated that he could "...trace no actual records..." of Wattled Plovers *Vanellus senegallus* for Tanzania. This is a surprising statement since my paper on Tabora birds (Reynolds 1968), listed as R2 in his bibliography, recorded this plover as a rainy season migrant to paddy fields around Tabora, and as breeding in the Ugalla River Game Reserve between August and November.